

John Fox inducted into the DCAT Hall of Fame



Jim Jennings John Fox Ort Beaumont
Presenter Inductee President

It's my pleasure to give you a biography of this year's "Hall of Fame" inductee..... John Fox.

From a personal standpoint: John was born on June 23, 1939, attended Swansea Public School, graduated in 1958 from Western Tech, dated Dolly, who was also a Western Tech grad, and they married on Oct. 10, 1964. The Foxes had two children, April and Adam, and subsequently, April with her husband, Ted, presented them with a granddaughter, Trista in 2008.

From a music standpoint: John, at age 13, joined the Governor General Horse Guard Cadets and became a horn player in the GGHG trumpet band. At Western Tech, John played in the school orchestra as well as marching with their trumpet band, who captured the Canadian Junior Drum Corps Championship in 1958. Upon graduating, he joined the 2nd Signal Regiment who evolved into Canada's Marching Ambassadors. John marched, maneuvered and competed with the Ambassadors until 1967 when his work transferred him to Montreal.

After 2 yrs in Montreal, he returned to Mississauga and stayed for 25 years, up to Orillia for work for 10 years, then down to Newmarket in 2002. John continues with his love for trumpet playing and marching - and for the past 5 years, has been a member of the Newmarket Citizens Band.

John became one of the original DCAT members in 1994, commuting from Orillia (sometimes twice a week) to rehearsals and performances. For 6 years, John served on the Social Committee, helping to organize potluck dances at the Masonic Hall and those memorable Halloween parties at the Royals Curling Club. John had two stints as Business Manager.... 1997 to 2000 when he resided in Orillia and again, 2006 to 2012 from Newmarket.

Orillia days bring back some fine DCAT memories - Fox backyard BBQs, Orillia old age home performances, town hall Raymond's birthday + "Danny Boy", Orillia Legion and "Master of the House" performance where he made contact for DCAT to perform at the Woodstock Briar Curling Championship.

One can go on and on as to events John had his finger in. If anyone needed help on a Committee (i.e. Love of Music and GAS), John was first to volunteer. He even brought some Johnny Soufflé guy out of the closet to extend our performance abilities at GAS.

John, with Dolly's support, has uninhibited and unconditional love for DCAT. He thrives on the bonding and camaraderie generated by our group. Your votes have demonstrated your recognition of John's contributions and it is with pride, that I, on your behalf, announce the 2013 induction of John Fox into the DCAT Hall of Fame.

Written/read by Jim Jennings

I thank you, DCAT for your votes, making me eligible to become a DCAT Hall of Fame member! This is truly a wonderful honour for me, to be recognized by my peers and fellow members of our great DCAT Chorus.

During my 19 years membership, I sought to improve things for our members in the early years by co-hosting the 5 Orillia concerts and BBQs, then working with others on the Social Committee, helping to organize get-togethers, dances, parties, etc. while having fun raising money to help with DCAT expenses.

I volunteered and was elected Business Manager for over 9 years to obtain paid and pro-bono performances so that DCAT could show audiences our musical skills, have a great time performing while again, raising money.

While performing this elected Executive Committee position and with my wife, Dolly's encouragement and participation, I was an active member of various projects or committees such as "Love of Music" for 8 years, Social Committee for 6 years, helped with GAS '99 and GAS 2008, current 2nd Tenor Section leader, and personally gained a great deal of enjoyment from all the hard work.....and who could forget 'Johnny Soufflé'??

I live and breathe DCAT! This REALLY IS a marvellous organization! – we have lots of fun and many great experiences while performing, going on GAS trips, and also the after-glow parties. **The camaraderie is infectious!**

As you know, 2014 is our 20th year of existence, and ALL OF US must continue to work hard, be in our seats by 7:27 pm, reduce talking while Wyatt and Rick are instructing, work harder to learn and perfect our numbers, and be more 'performance ready'!

As well, we should **all** strive to get new members as our numbers are dwindling. If DCAT is to continue for another 20 years, we must increase our numbers to **even survive!!**

Thank you all again for bestowing upon me my induction into the DCAT Hall of Fame. This honour is recognition of my devotion to DCAT and all the efforts made over my 19 years of membership!

DCAT HAS MADE ME VERY HAPPY!!

Thank you

Written/read by John Fox